## **DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

he specification	n of which:				
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		(if applicable)			
		e reviewed and understand the description of the referred to above.	I the contents of the above iden	tified speci	fication, includin
		to disclose information whe gulations, § 1.56*	ich is material to the examination	n of this app	olication in accord
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Power of Attorney: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint Michael E. Whitham, Reg. No. 32,635, Marshall M. Curtis, Reg. No. 33,138, Clyde R Christofferson, Reg. No. 34,138, as attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. All correspondence should be directed to Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, PC, 11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340, Reston, Virginia 20190. Telephone calls should be directed to Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, PC at (703) 787-9400. Faxes should be directed to 703-787-7557. Please associate this application with the following customer number: 30743

30743

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Citizenship: US	
Post Office Address: SAME AS ABOVE	
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Inventor's Signature	Date:
Residence: 608 Floyd Street, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060	
Citizenship: US	
Post Office Address: SAME AS ABOVE	

## \*Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56:

- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith toward the Patent and Trademark Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and (1) it establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability; or (2) it refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in: (i) opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or (ii) asserting an argument of patentability.